

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 6, 16 and 17 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1 – 5, 7 – 15 and 18 -21 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for allowing claims 6, 16, and 17.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112 and §102

Claims 5 and 7 – 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1 – 5, 7 – 15 and 18 – 21 were rejected in the Action under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by German Patent No. DE 11 54 982B. The cancellation of claims 1 – 5, 7 – 15 and 18 – 21 renders the rejections moot.

To the extent that only allowed claims remain in the application, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant: Hart et al.
Application No.: 10/549,245

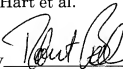
Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 6, 16 and 17, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Hart et al.

By 
Robert J. Ballarini
Registration No. 48,684

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.
United Plaza, Suite 1600
30 South 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-6400
Facsimile: (215) 568-6499

RJB/srs